

**REMARKS****I. Status of the Claims:**

Claims 12, 15-19 and 22-25 are currently pending. By this Amendment, claims 12 and 22-25 have been amended, claims 15 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 26-27 have been added. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 12, 17-19 and 22-27 would be pending. No new matter has been introduced by this Amendment. Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

**II. Specification:**

The Examiner indicates that the title of the invention is not descriptive and has suggested the new title as --CCD Array--. The Title of the invention has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections are respectfully requested.

**III. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2:**

Claim 25 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter.

Claim 25 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, and is thus believed to be definite. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

**IV. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103:**

Claims 12, 15-17, 22, 24 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman (US 4,281,254) in view of Sayag (US 5,585,847). Claims 18 and

19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Seachman (US 4,281,254) in view of Sayag as applied to claim 17, and further in view of Saito et al. (US 6,256,063).

Claim 12 as amended is directed to an arrangement in which the pulse supply unit supplies, in a low-resolution mode, the three types of the transfer pulses having different phases to the first and second shift registers in order to add, shift and output signals which have been output from adjacent elements of the first and second element array, and, in a high-resolution mode, two types of the transfer pulses having different phases to the first and second shift registers so as to shift and output signals, which have been output from the first and second pixel arrays, without addition.

Seachman discloses that the centers of the photosensors of one array are offset relative to the centers of the photosensors of the second array by  $1/2$  the center-to-center distance of the photosensors in any one array. A signal packet is transferred by two-phase clock to each of the two arrays. As noted in Seachman, while a two phase arrangement has been described, additional phase, i.e., three phase, four phase etc.

On the other hand, Sayag discloses adding half of values of pixel on 12 phase clock. In particular, Figs. 8a-8r show state of electrical charge at several timings of 12 phase clock.

However, these references do not disclose that in a low-resolution mode, three types of the transfer pulses having different phases are supplied to said first and second shift registers in order to add, shift and output signals which have been output from adjacent elements in the first and second element array, and that in a high-resolution mode, two types of the transfer pulses having different phases are supplied to the first and second shift registers so that the first and second shift registers shift and output signals without addition.

Accordingly, claim 12 as well as claim 22 and their dependent claims are believed to be distinguishable over the cited references, individually or in combination. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims are respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

**AUTHORIZATION**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4729.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-4729.

Respectfully submitted,  
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